



# FLORIDA KEYS

## National Weather Service

### Forecast Office

<http://www.weather.gov/keywest>

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**2009 RANKS AS THE 5<sup>TH</sup> DRIEST YEAR FOR KEY WEST IN 30 YEARS**  
**5<sup>TH</sup> WETTEST DECEMBER FOR KEY WEST IN PAST 30 YEARS**  
**A TOTAL OF 52 RECORDS SET OR TIED IN KEY WEST THROUGHOUT 2009**

WHILE KEY WEST INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ENDED 2009 AS ONE OF THE TOP 5 DRIEST ON RECORD IN 30 YEARS...SLOW-MOVING RAIN WITH EMBEDDED HEAVY SHOWERS ON THE 18TH HELPED DECEMBER PLACE 5TH WETTEST FOR THAT SAME PERIOD. STORMS ON THE 18TH RESULTED IN 3.28 INCHES OF RAINFALL FOR KEY WEST...BREAKING THE PREVIOUS DAILY RAINFALL RECORD OF 1.90 INCHES SET BACK IN 1929.

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR 52 RECORDS WERE SET OR TIED IN KEY WEST...3 OF THOSE BEING FOR RAINFALL AND THE REMAINING 49 FROM TEMPERATURES. ALTHOUGH RECORDS FROM 2009 WERE MOSTLY FOR WARMER TEMPERATURES...6 WERE FOR TEMPERATURES ON THE COOLER SIDE. TEMPERATURES IN DECEMBER RESULTED IN 6 RECORDS FOR KEY WEST THAT WERE EITHER SET OR TIED...ALL FOR RECORD WARM TEMPERATURES.

KEY WEST RECEIVED 33.46 INCHES OF RAINFALL OVER THE COURSE OF THE YEAR...WITH 4.49 INCHES OF THAT HAVING FALLEN IN DECEMBER. THESE VALUES WERE 5.48 INCHES BELOW AND 2.35 INCHES ABOVE NORMAL VALUES FOR THE YEAR AND MONTH...RESPECTIVELY. FLORIDA KEYS MARATHON AIRPORT RECEIVED 36.37 INCHES OF RAINFALL IN 2009...WITH 2.05 INCHES OF THAT BEING FROM DECEMBER. THESE VALUES WERE 4.63 INCHES BELOW AND 0.15 INCHES ABOVE NORMAL VALUES FOR THE YEAR AND MONTH...RESPECTIVELY.

DECEMBER 2009 FOR KEY WEST WAS ONE HUNDREDTH OF AN INCH SHY FROM TYING FOR THE 10TH WETTEST DECEMBER SINCE RECORDKEEPING BEGAN BACK IN 1871. THE DRIEST YEAR ON RECORD FOR KEY WEST REMAINS 1974 WHEN ONLY 19.99 INCHES OF RAINFALL WAS RECEIVED. RECORDS ARE NOT YET TRACKED FOR MARATHON DUE TO THE SHORTER PERIOD OF OBSERVATIONS.

THE AVERAGE TEMPERATURES IN KEY WEST AND MARATHON WERE ABOVE NORMAL FOR BOTH THE YEAR AND THE MONTH OF DECEMBER...THOUGH KEY WEST WAS ONLY SLIGHTLY ABOVE NORMAL FOR THE YEAR. KEY WEST AVERAGED 78.3 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT FOR THE YEAR (0.2 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL) AND 73.4 DEGREES FOR DECEMBER (1.2 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL). MARATHON AVERAGED 78.6 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT FOR THE YEAR (1.1 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL) AND 73.2 DEGREES FOR DECEMBER (2.1 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL).

BELOW ARE PRELIMINARY RAINFALL TOTALS FOR DECEMBER...COMPARING 2009 TO 2008 AND THE DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL VALUES WHERE AVAILABLE.

**DECEMBER RAINFALL VALUES/DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES**

<b>Station – Station Type</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>Dep. fm Normal</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>Dep. fm 2008</b>
Dry Tortugas National Park – <i>COOP</i>	3.57		N/A	N/A
Key West WFO – <i>NWS</i>	5.12	+2.98	0.99	+4.13
Key West International Airport – <i>ASOS</i>	4.49	+2.35	0.89	+3.60
Big Coppitt Key – <i>CoCoRaHS</i>	3.94		2.78	+1.16
Cudjoe Key – <i>CoCoRaHS</i>	5.72		1.46	+4.26
Bahia Honda State Park – <i>COOP</i>	1.45		1.54	-0.09
Florida Keys Marathon Airport – <i>ASOS</i>	2.05	+0.15	0.86	+1.19
Curry Hammock State Park – <i>COOP</i>	2.58	+0.68	0.99	+1.59
Duck Key– <i>COOP</i>	2.00	+0.10	0.67	+1.33
Islamorada – <i>COOP</i>	1.08		0.53	+0.55
John Pennekamp State Park – <i>COOP</i>	7.60		0.56	+7.04
Key Largo – <i>CoCoRaHS</i>	3.61		0.40	+3.21

OF NOTE FROM THE TABLE ABOVE IS THE DIFFERENCE FROM JOHN PENNEKAMP STATE PARK AND THE REMAINDER OF THE OBSERVING SITES. JOHN PENNEKAMP REPORTED 5 DAYS OF RAINFALL WITH 1 INCH OR MORE AND EVEN 1 DAY WITH 2 INCHES.

NORMAL VALUES FOR KEY WEST ARE THE AVERAGE OF 1979-2000 AND FOR MARATHON/DUCK KEY THEY ARE THE AVERAGE SPANNING 1982-2004. RECORDS ARE NOT TRACKED FOR MARATHON DUE TO THE SHORT PERIOD OF ASOS DATA.

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